

Washington, D.C. - {Round Lake, IL – Rep. Melissa Bean (IL-8) today stood with city and county leaders today to announce that \$2 million in federal funds will be used for Phase I engineering of the Route 120 bypass corridor. The road expansion could significantly improve the east-west traffic flow for a large portion of Lake County, reduce commute times and stimulate economic development in the county. Bean is the only Member in the Illinois delegation to secure funding for the 120 project.

“Expanding Route 120 will have a direct impact on the lives of commuters and their families across Lake County,” Bean said. “I have been working with the county, state legislators and municipalities to advance this crucial first step to relieving the growing traffic congestion in the area and making this comprehensive project a reality.”

The Illinois Route 120 bypass would stretch from U.S. Highway 12 to Illinois Route 131, reducing east-west congestion across most of the county. Federal Phase I engineering will use the preferred alignment plan to develop the project’s specific logistical needs and to mitigate environmental impacts. The \$2 million Bean secured would complement additional funding from the state that has been requested by the Route 120 Corridor Planning Council.

Representatives from many of the communities benefiting from the project joined Congresswoman Bean near Route 120, at the Round Lake Public Works Department. Mayor of Round Lake Bill Gentes, Wauconda Mayor Sal Saccomanno, and Suzi Schmidt, the Lake County Board Chairman, all expressed support for the plan.

“My constituents often tell me that traffic is a significant problem in their lives,” Bean said. “Congestion is more than an inconvenience. It causes accidents, hurts businesses, and keeps people from their families. I will continue working in Washington to ensure that our communities receive the federal resources needed to ease traffic congestion and improve our families’ quality of life.”

Upgrading the area’s transportation networks has been a high priority for Congresswoman Bean. Since taking office, she has obtained over \$30 million to improve roads and reduce traffic in the Eighth District and helped secure more than \$150 million to improve Metra service.

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